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M. WATTS  
12/11/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Alice H. Howe

TENNIS RACQUET EQUIPPED  
WITH A TENNIS BALL RETRIEVER

Attorney Docket No.: MPH-99-46

Application No: 09/655,743

Art Unit 3711

Examiner: Raleigh W. Chiu

Filing Date: 9/06/2000

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GROUP 3700

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Box Responses - Fee  
2900 Crystal Drive  
Arlington, VA 22202-3513

**RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT**

This communication is in response to Office Action Paper No. 3 of June 19, 2001.

Enclosed is Petition for an Extension of Time under 37CFR1,136(a) and fee payment.

Also enclosed is an invention disclosure statement listing all of those patents unchecked by the Examiner's Report, together with copies of each patent uninitialed therein. A check in payment of the late Information Disclosure Statement filing charges under 1,17(p) accompanies this response.

**Amendments**

Please amend the specification as follows:

In the claims:

1. (First Amended) A combination of a tennis racquet equipped with a ball retrieving attachment attached to a shoulder of the racquet in a ball retrieving position for engaging and lifting a grounded tennis ball upon tangential contact with said tennis ball, said attachment comprising a hooked fastener material adhesively attached to a convex outer perimeter portion of the shoulder so as to permit the hooked fastener material to make the tangential contact with said grounded tennis ball, with said hooked fastener material having a series of pre-shrunk nylon